



TSMC-98-528BCB

September 12, 2003

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fr: George O. Saile, Reg. No. 19,572  
28 Davis Avenue  
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Subject: | Serial No. 10/602,337 06/24/03  
          | Jhon-Jhy Liaw

# A NEW REDUNDANCY STRUCTURE IN SELF-ALIGNED CONTACT PROCESS

Grp. Art Unit:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO-1449, Information Disclosure Citation  
In An Application.

The following Patents and/or Publications are submitted to comply with the duty of disclosure under CFR 1.97-1.99 and 37 CFR 1.56. Copies of each document is included herewith.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 16, 2003.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg.# 37761

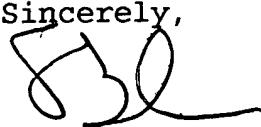
Signature/Date

U.S. Patent 5,729,041 to Yoo et al., "Protective Film for Fuse Window Passivation for Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Applications," describes a structure and method of forming a fuse and fuse window having a protective layer formed over them. The protective layer is highly transmissive to intense laser light while it is protective of the fuse and the surrounding insulating layers.

U.S. Patent 4,651,409 to Ellsworth et al., "Method of Fabricating a High Density, Low Power, Merged Vertical Fuse/Bipolar Transistor," describes a fuse programmable read only memory (PROM). The fuse programmable PROM has a merged vertical fuse/bipolar transistor.

U.S. Patent 5,754,089 to Chen et al., "Fuse Structure and Method for Manufacturing It," describes a fuse structure in which a metallic frame is inserted between the interlayer dielectric insulation layers.

U.S. Patent 5,567,643 to Lee et al., "Method of Forming Contamination Guard Ring for Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Applications," describes a method for creating a guard ring around a fuse link.

Sincerely,  
  
Stephen B. Ackerman,  
Reg. No. 37761

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Device Number (Opener) | Applicant Number |
| TSMC-98-528BCB         | 10/602,337       |
| Applicant              | Jhon-Jhy Liao    |
| Filing Date            | 06/24/03         |
|                        | Drawn At U.S.    |

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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Portion of Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.